

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 HA-05 PM-05 NSC-05  
SP-02 SS-15 L-03 H-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00  
DODE-00 ACDA-12 /094 W  
-----068687 281714Z /46

P R 281611Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7626  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 10259

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: PDEV ET SO UK SW RH CG  
SUBJECT: AFRICA: DISCUSSION AT FOREIGN OFFICE

1. EMBASSY OFFICER SAW PHILLIP MANSFIELD JUNE 27 AND DISCUSSED THE HORN, NAMIBIA, RHODESIA AND ZAIRE.
2. THE HORN: MANSFIELD SAID SIAD BARRE LEFT LONDON LAST WEEK EMPTY-HANDED BUT NEVERTHELESS SATISFIED WITH HIS VISIT. HE HAD REQUESTED BRITISH HELP FOR DEFENSIVE MILITARY EQUIPMENT INCLUDING ANTI-AIRCRAFT WEAPONS, BUT  
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CALLAGHAN IN HIS BEST AVUNCULAR STYLE TURNED HIM DOWN. THE PRIME MINISTER EXPLAINED BRITAIN'S KENYA CONNECTION AND URGED SIAD TO ARRANGE A PUBLIC RAPPROCHEMENT WITH NAIROBI INCLUDING A NON-AGGRESSION PACT. SIAD IN TURN EXPLAINED THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE SOMALI-ETHIOPIAN BORDER, WHICH HE CALLED COLONIAL AND PROVISIONAL, AND THE SOMALI-KENYA BORDER, WHICH HE SAID IS ESTABLISHED

AND RECOGNIZED. WHILE NOT HOSTILE TO CALLAGHAN'S SUGGESTION, SIAD SAID HE HAD MADE NUMEROUS OVERTURES TO THE KENYANS AND IT WAS NOW UP TO THEM TO RECIPROCATE. (MANSFIELD COMMENTED THAT THE KENYANS TRUSTED SIAD SO LITTLE THAT THE PROSPECT OF A FORMAL RAPPROCHEMENT IS NOT GREAT.) SIAD DENIED TO CALLAGHAN AND OWEN THAT SOMALIA IS SUPPORTING THE CONTINUED WSLF RESISTANCE IN THE OGADEN BUT HE WAS NOT PRESSED ON THIS. CALLAGHAN OFFERED INCREASED ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, PARTICULARLY FOR JUBA RIVER SUGAR DEVELOPMENT. MANSFIELD AFFIRMED THAT TED ROWLANDS' INFORMAL RECOMMENDATION THAT THE US SUPPLY ARMS TO SOMALIA (MOGADISCIO 1310 NOTAL) DID NOT REPRESENT HMG POLICY.

3. NAMIBIA: MANSFIELD SAID THAT DON MCHENRY'S ACCESS TO AMERICAN PRISONERS IN LUANDA MIGHT INDICATE ANGOLAN WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE IN WESTERN EFFORTS TO REACH A SETTLEMENT IN NAMIBIA. (WE DID NOT YET HAVE A REPORT ON MCHENRY'S TRIP BUT THE UK CHARGE HAD REPORTED MCHENRY'S VISIT TO THE AMERICANS.) MANSFIELD SPECULATED THAT, IF SOUTH AFRICA ACCEPTS THE FIVE'S POSITION ON WALVIS BAY AS WELL AS THE ONE-BASE RECOMMENDATION, THESE CONCESSIONS WOULD NEVERTHELESS BE UNLIKELY TO SATISFY NYERERE AND SWAPO. NYERERE IS RELUCTANT TO GO TOO FAR IN FRONT WITH THE WESTERN PROPOSALS, HE SAID, PARTICULARLY IN THE WEEKS BEFORE THE OAU SUMMIT. SWAPO  
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THINKING IS ALSO CONDITIONED BY EXPECTATIONS ABOUT THE OAU IN KHARTOUM WHERE THEY ANTICIPATE SOME SORT OF CONFIRMATION OF THEIR STAND THAT OUR PROPOSALS MUST BE RENEGOTIATED. ASSUMING THIS SCENARIO, MANSFIELD DOUBTED THE WISDOM OF SUBMITTING THE PROPOSALS TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL WHICH WOULD TAKE THE PLAN OUT OF WESTERN HANDS AND OPEN IT TO AMENDMENTS. (OWEN, HE SAID, IS UNCERTAIN ON THIS POINT.) IN ANY EVENT, MANSFIELD EXPECTS LITTLE PROGRESS WITH THE FRONT LINE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 LONDON 10259

OR SWAPO BEFORE THE OAU SUMMIT WHICH MAY TURN OUT TO BE  
AN UNACCEPTABLE DELAY FOR THE SOUTH AFRICANS.

4. RHODESIA: WHILE THERE ARE SIGNS THAT SMITH AND THE  
INTERNAL NATIONALISTS ARE LOOKING FOR ALTERNATIVES,  
MANSFIELD SAID HE WAS LESS OPTIMISTIC THAN OWEN THAT AN  
ALL PARTIES CONFERENCE CAN SOON BE ARRANGED. OWEN, HE  
SAID, EXPECTS A CONFERENCE SOMETIME IN AUGUST. GRAHAM  
AND LOW SHOULD EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES OF QUIET  
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OFFICIAL-LEVEL TALKS, MANSFIELD SAID, BUT EVEN IF SUC-  
CESSFUL, SUCH TALKS COULD NOT ACCOMPLISH MUCH MORE THAN  
FIXING AN AGENDA FOR A WIDER CONFERENCE. AND THERE  
WOULD HAVE TO BE A SUBSTANTIAL CHANGE OF POSITIONS ON  
BOTH SIDES BEFORE THE TERMS OF A WIDER CONFERENCE COULD  
BE AGREED. AGAIN, THE OAU SUMMIT WILL LIKELY DELAY ANY  
PROGRESS IN NEGOTIATING WITH THE PATRIOTIC FRONT.

5. ZAIRE: MANSFIELD SAID BOTH THE BELGIANS AND FRENCH  
HAVE REQUESTED SOME FORM OF UK SUPPORT FOR THE AFRICAN

FORCE IN SHABA. OWEN, HOWEVER, HAS RESISTED THESE APPROACHES. FCO IS NOW PLANNING ONLY "MID-TERM" ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE -- ABOUT TWO MILLION POUNDS. MANSFIELD SAID FCO WOULD BE RELUCTANTLY PREPARED TO APPROACH SOME ANGLOPHONE COUNTRIES ABOUT THEIR PARTICIPATION IN SHABA BUT HMG HAS NOT BEEN ASKED TO DO SO EITHER BY THE ZAIRIANS OR THE FRENCH. ON ANOTHER POINT, MANSFIELD SAID HE HOPED THE FIVE GOVERNMENTS WHICH MET IN PARIS AND BRUSSELS WOULD BE ABLE TO MEET AGAIN SOON -- AND WITHOUT PUBLICITY -- IN ORDER TO REVIEW PROGRESS IN ZAIRE AND NEXT STEPS. THE PROBLEM WITH CONSULTATIONS, HE SAID, IS THAT THE BELGIANS AND FRENCH DON'T LIKE TO TALK TO EACH OTHER.

6. MANSFIELD'S REMARKS WERE CANDID AND THE SOURCE SHOULD BE PROTECTED.

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## Message Attributes

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